21 Cornhill Boston

March 24/58.

Dear Burleigh,

The Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Antislavery Society, at a meeting held yesterday, Voted to appoint you their Agent for such occasional service as you may find time and opportunity to render to the Antislavery cause, in Western Massachusetts, during the ensuing spring & summer. – As they knew not – and probably you could not now tell – just what amount of time you could give to us, nor when you could give it, the Board proposed this arrangement, viz: That you should keep account of antislavery lectures given, with amount of travel, &c., and

yourself make an estimate
of the charge proper to be made;
that you should make out and
send to them your bill for ~~your~~
services and expenses, when they
will take action with regard to it.
They are of course desirous to have
you do all you can in the way
of Collections.

As March is so far advanced,
I think it will be better to have your
Agency commence on the first of April.
Your accounts can be rendered monthly,
bi-monthly, or quarterly as you prefer.
If equally agreeable to you, I would
suggest the latter. The appointment

may be considered as covering
six months, though that time was
not specifically named.

Will you let me hear from
you in reply to above, as soon as
convenient? If you say Yes,
I will duly announce your
appointment in Liberator.

Do you feel precluded from
going into Vermont for a few
weeks during the Summer?

Very truly Yrs

Sam'l. May Jr

(over)

Mar. 28. — The foregoing was written and ready to be mailed, when yrs. of 22d. came to hand, and I withheld that, to add a few lines.

It will make no difference to us, of course, just when your Western Mass. Agency commences — whether the first the last of April. Meantime, whatever Sunday work you can do for us, in places that you may select as likely to promise a good return to the Cause, we shall be glad to have you do; for which you can send to me your acct. at the expiration of the time.

I am very glad you have made the arrangements for Cummington, Florence, & Northampton. — That is a region which needs your word, theologically, morally, spiritually, and the constant rebuke and help of your example. You cannot fail, I think, to have opportunities for special anti-Slavery lectures, and I rejoice that our cause is to be ably represented in that part of the State.

The proposition of the Board, having been made and written (as above) before the receipt of your letter, I will let it stand. The Board will be as likely to be satisfied with your estimate of your services, as with any other person known to them. Their idea was to reach the just apportionment of salary to labour, on the usual basis of the agents' salaries, as near as might be. Where Sunday is omitted from our week, the Committee think that, so far as ~~it~~ the efficient promotion of the Cause goes, only about half-a-week remains of L.'s